

REMARKS

In an Office Action mailed on December 19, 2002, objections were made to the drawings; an objection was made to claim 13; claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parker; claims 19-21, 24 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parker; and claims 17, 18, 22, 23 and 25-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Parker. The drawings and specification have been amended to overcome the objections to the drawings. Claim 13 has been canceled, thereby rendering the objection to this claim moot. Claims 1 and 17 have been amended. The §§ 102 and 103 rejections are discussed below.

A marked-up version of the amended claims is submitted as a separate document. The undersigned has endeavored to ensure that the clean and marked-up versions of the amended claims correspond. However, the Examiner is specifically requested to verify that these two versions of the claims are consistent.

Rejections of Claims 1-5:

As amended, the method of claim 1 includes using a processor to generate a first set of commands for an imaging device during a first time interval. This first set of commands is associated with a first task to be performed by the imaging device. The method includes using the processor to generate a second set of commands for the imaging device during a second time interval that overlaps the first time interval. This second set of commands is associated with a second task to be performed by the imaging device. The method includes transmitting the first set of commands to the imaging device during a third time interval and transmitting the second set of commands to the imaging device during a fourth time interval that does not overlap the third time interval.

Contrary to the limitations of amended claim 1, Parker neither teaches nor suggests transmitting a first set of commands to an imaging device during a third time interval and transmitting a second set of commands to the imaging device during the fourth time interval that does not overlap the third time interval when the first and second set of commands were

generated by the same processor during overlapping time intervals. In this manner, Parker discloses personal locator (PL) devices 11, each of which contains micro-controller circuitry 12 to generate commands. However, Parker neither teaches nor suggests that the micro-controller circuitry 12 in a particular PL device 11 generates commands for different tasks in overlapping time intervals. Thus, Parker does not teach or suggest the claimed invention.

Claims 2-5 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim. Therefore, for at least the reasons stated above, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-5 is requested.

Rejections of Claims 6-12:

The article of claim 6 includes a computer readable storage medium that includes instructions to cause a processor to transmit a first set of commands to an imaging device during a third time interval and transmit a second set of commands to the imaging device during a fourth time interval that does not overlap the third time interval. The instructions cause the processor to generate the first set of commands during a first time interval and generate the second set of commands during a second time interval that overlaps the first time interval. The computer system of claim 10 includes a processor to perform the above-recited functions.

In contrast to the limitations of independent claims 6 and 10, Parker neither teaches nor suggests generating different sets of commands for different tasks by the same processor in overlapping time intervals. Thus, Parker neither teaches nor suggests the limitations of claims 6 and 10. Claims 7-9 and 11-12 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim.

Rejections of Claims 14-16:

The article of claim 14 includes a computer readable storage medium including instructions to cause a computer to receive a first set of commands for an imaging device. This first set of commands is generated by the execution of a first application program. The instructions also cause the computer to receive a second set of commands for the imaging device during the generation of the first set of commands. Furthermore, the instructions cause the

computer to transmit the first set of commands to the imaging device during a first time interval and transmit the second set of commands to the imaging device during a second time interval that does not overlap with the first time interval.

Contrary to the limitations of claim 14, Parker neither teaches nor suggests a computer to transmit two different sets of commands during non-overlapping time intervals when one set of the commands was received during the generation of the second set of the commands. Thus, for at least this reason, Parker fails to teach all of the limitations of claim 14.

Claims 15 and 16 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 14-16 is requested.

Rejections of Claims 17-21:

As amended, the method of claim 17 includes using a processor to set up and capture a first frame, including transmitting a first set of commands, and using the processor to set up and capture a second frame including transmitting a second set of commands. The method includes preventing the transmission of the first set of commands from being interleaved with the transmission of the second set of commands.

Contrary to the limitations of claim 17, Parker neither teaches nor suggests preventing transmission of a first set of commands from being interleaved with the transmission of a second set of commands. Thus, for at least this reason, claim 17 overcomes the § 102(e) rejection in view of Parker. Claims 18-21 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim.

Rejections of Claims 22-24:

The article of claim 22 includes a computer readable storage medium including instructions to cause a computer to set up and capture a first frame including transmitting a first set of commands to an imaging device. The instruction cause the computer to set up and capture a second frame including transmitting a second set of commands to the imaging device. The instructions also cause the computer to prevent the transmission of the first set of commands from being interleaved with the transmission of the second set of commands.

Contrary to the limitations of claim 22, Parker neither teaches nor suggests instructions to cause a computer to prevent transmission of a first set of commands from being interleaved with the transmission of a second set of commands. In this manner, Parker neither teaches nor suggests that the micro-controller circuitry 12 of any particular PL device 11 prevents such transmission. Therefore, for at least this reason, withdrawal of the § 102(e) rejection of claim 22 is requested. Claims 23 and 24 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim.

Rejections of Claims 25-28:

The computer system of claim 25 includes an imaging device and a processor. The processor interacts with the imaging device to set up and capture a first frame including transmitting a first set of commands to the imaging device. The processor interacts with the imaging device to set up and capture a second frame including transmitting a second set of commands to the imaging device. The processor also prevents the transmission of the first set of commands from being interleaved with the transmission of the second set of commands.

Contrary to the limitations of claim 25, Parker neither teaches nor suggests a processor to prevent the transmission of a first set of commands from being interleaved with the transmission of a second set of commands. In this manner, Parker does not describe that the micro-controller circuitry 12 of any particular PL device 11 prevents the transmission of different sets of commands. Therefore, Parker fails to teach all limitations of claim 25.

Claims 26-28 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 25-28 is requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the §§ 102 and 103 rejections and a favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance are requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (ITL.0071US).

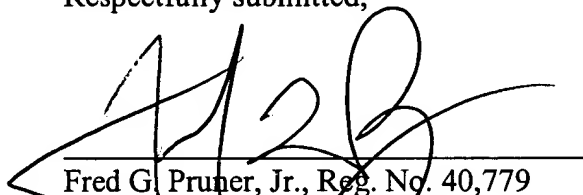
Respectfully submitted,

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